In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as shown:

Please delete the paragraphs on page 2, line 6 to page 3, line 3 and replace them with the following paragraphs:

MBPCs for use in the treatment of HIV infections were first described by J-M. Sabatier et al in WO 95/07929. The MBPCs described therein have peptides which contain the sequence GPGR **(SEQ ID NO: 1)** (from the V3 loop of the surface envelope glycoprotein gp120 of HIV) preceded by from 0 to 4 amino acid residues and succeeded by from 2 to 4 amino acid residues. The amino acid sequences IGPGR **(SEQ ID NO: 2)** and IXXGPGR **(SEQ ID NO: 3)** (where X is an amino acid residue) are excluded. The most preferred of these MBPCs has a lysine residue core with eight peptides GPGRAF **(SEQ ID NO: 4)** bonded thereto. It may be represented as $(GPGRAF)_8$-K_4-K_2-K-βA-OH **(SEQ ID NOS 4 & 5)**, the OH terminal indicating the carboxyl group of the β-alanine. That carboxyl group may alternatively be modified to form a carboxamide terminal. This compound is referred to herein as SPC3.

In WO 98/29443, J-M Sabatier et al described further MBPCs which may be effective in the treatment of HIV infection. These use peptides derived from the HIV envelope transmembrane glycoprotein gp41. The peptides contain the sequence RQGY **(SEQ ID NO: 6)** preceded by from 0 to 4 amino acid residues and succeeded by from 2 to 4 amino acid residues. The most preferred of these MBPCs has a lysine residue core with eight peptides RQGYSPL **(SEQ ID NO: 7)** bonded thereto. It may be represented as $(RQGYSPL)_8$-K_4-K_2-K-βA-OH **(SEQ ID NOS 7 & 5)**, the OH terminal indicating the carboxyl group of the β-alanine. That carboxyl group may alternatively be modified to form a carboxamide terminal. This compound is referred to herein as RL, although it has in the past also been referred to as SPC RL and as RL41.

Subsequently to WO 98/29443, it was established that the MBPC $(RQGYSPL)_2$-K-βA **(SEQ ID NO: 7)** (hereinafter RL dimer) is effective but that the MBPC $(RQGYSP)_2$-K-βA **(SEQ ID NO: 8)** is less so. This was thought to confirm the lower limit of 6 amino acids in the peptide branches of the MBPCs. However, K Mabrouk et al showed in WO 03/095479 that some shorter peptides could be used, in particular $(RQGYS)_2$-K-βA-OH **(SEQ ID NO: 9)**